



State of Utah
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
DIVISION OF OIL, GAS AND MINING

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S/023/065

February 28, 2000

Kiran Bhayani
Division of Water Quality
288 North 1460 West
Salt Lake City, Utah 84116

Re: Receipt of Notice of Intention to Commence Small Mining Operations

Dear Mr. Bhayani:

As per the recent Memorandum of Understanding between the Department of Environmental Quality and the Division of Oil, Gas and Mining, signed September 1, 1999, we are forwarding a copy of the following Notice of Intention to Commence Small Mining Operations for your review.

DOGM File Number
S/023/065

Project Name
Soma Quarry

Operator Name
Nephi Sandstone Corp

Our rules require us to review small mine notices and respond within 15 days. Please forward any comments you may have regarding these projects. We have previously been informed by DWQ staff that *"these projects could be pre-screened by DOGM and BLM personnel to determine if they are dry operations. Dry operations need not be submitted for our review. In the future, agencies could review small mining projects and need not submit the majority of them to Utah DEQ."*

We do not want to be responsible for holding up an operator from starting operations. Our technical staff may not be able to review the notice until the very end of the 15 days to determine if they need to be forwarded to DWQ. Therefore, we have been sending these to you shortly after our receipt so your office can make this determination and avoid holding up an operation any longer than necessary. We are in the process of revising our application forms to ask the operator to state whether the project is wet or dry. We will send you a copy of our new form for review before we finalize it. Until the new form is finalized, please bear with us by reviewing these notices per our current MOU.

Sincerely,

Joelle Burns
Minerals Secretary

Enclosure
s23-65-dwq